



J. TYLER McCAULEY  
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
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LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2766  
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December 29, 2005

TO: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley   
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – DAVID AND MARGARET HOME, INCORPORATED, DAVID AND MARGARET HOME AND WENWOOD GROUP HOME**

We have completed a review of David and Margaret Home and Wenwood Group Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by David and Margaret Home, Incorporated. The Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

David and Margaret Home is a 60-bed facility, which provides care for children ages 11-18 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, David and Margaret Home was providing services for 33 Los Angeles County DCFS children, six Los Angeles County Probation children, three San Bernardino County DCFS children and three San Bernardino County Probation children.

Wenwood Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for children ages 11-18 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Wenwood Group Home was providing services for six Los Angeles County DCFS children.

David and Margaret Homes are located in the Fifth District.

**Scope of Review**

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child

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safety and licensing issues, and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection, and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency, and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

### **Summary of Findings**

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement.

David and Margaret Home needs to include comprehensive measurable and achievable goals in the Needs and Services Plans.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

### **Review of Report**

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or have your staff contact Mike Pirolo at (626) 293-1110.

JTM:MP:CC:asl  
[http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group\\_home.asp](http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group_home.asp)

### **Attachments**

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer  
David Sanders, Ph.D., Director, DCFS  
Paul Higa, Chief Probation Officer  
Charles Rich, Executive Director, David and Margaret Home, Inc.  
Public Information Office  
Audit Committee

**David and Margaret Home, Incorporated**  
**David and Margaret Home**  
**1350 Third Street**  
**La Verne, CA 91750**  
**Phone: (909) 596-5921**  
**License Number: 191500192**  
**Rate Classification Level: 12**

## **I. Facility and Environment**

### **Method of assessment – Observation**

#### **Comments:**

David and Margaret Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The grounds are clean and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly, and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

## **II. Program Services**

### **Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: Five**

**Comments:**

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The treatment team develops and implements the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) with input from the child. The NSPs are current, specific, and include long and short-term goals; however, the goals in the NSPs are not measurable or attainable.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

**Recommendation**

1. David and Margaret Home Management include comprehensive measurable and attainable goals in the Needs and Services Plans.

**III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: Five**

**Comments:**

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs, and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: Five**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities, and leisure time. Children are given opportunities to participate in planning activities.

Children are allowed to participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**V. Psychotropic Medication**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Comments:**

Children have current court authorizations for psychotropic medication. Documentation confirms that children are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

Children are informed about their psychotropic medication, and are aware of their right to refuse medication.

Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VI. Personal Rights**

**Method of assessment –Interviews with children**

**Sample size for interviews: Five**

**Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home, and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff, and report that staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to have private visitors, to make and receive personal telephone calls, and to send and receive unopened correspondence and mail. Children are able to attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

## **VII. Clothing and Allowance**

### **Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: Five**

#### **Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are given opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum base allowance. Children are permitted to spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items.

Children are encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**David and Margaret Home, Incorporated  
Wenwood Group Home  
3003 Wenwood Street  
La Verne, CA 91750  
Phone: (909) 596-5921  
License Number: 191503111  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

## **I. Facility and Environment**

### **Method of assessment – Observation**

#### **Comments:**

Wenwood Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean, and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly, and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

## **II. Program Services**

### **Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: Two**

**Comments:**

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The treatment team develops and implements the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) with input from the child. The NSPs are current, comprehensive, and include long and short-term goals.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

**Recommendations**

There are no recommendations for this section.

**III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: Two**

**Comments:**

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs, and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

**Recommendations**

There are no recommendations for this section.

**IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: Two**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities, and leisure time. Children are given opportunities to participate in planning activities.



Children are allowed to participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

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#### **Comments:**

Children have current court authorizations for psychotropic medication. Documentation confirms that children are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

Children are informed about their psychotropic medication, and are aware of their right to refuse medication.

Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

## **VI. Personal Rights**

### **Method of assessment –Interviews with children**

#### **Sample size for interviews: Two**

#### **Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home, and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff, and report that staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to have private visitors, to make and receive personal telephone calls, and to send and receive unopened correspondence and mail. Children are able to attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

## **VII. Clothing and Allowance**

### **Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: Two**

#### **Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are given opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum base allowance. Children are permitted to spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items.

Children are encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**



the  
David &  
Margaret Home

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Attachment  
Page 1 of 1  
950 Third Street  
La Verne, CA 91750  
(909) 596-5921, FAX (909) 596-3954

October 31, 2005

Candace Rhue  
Group Home Audit Supervisor  
Department of Auditor-Controller  
500 W. Temple St., Room 515-A  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Corrective Action Plan – **Main Campus**  
#191500192

Dear Ms. Rhue,

This is the corrective action plan under the review of the Director of Residential Services, Kenneth Cole, Psy.D., in conjunction with the Director of Mental Health, Michael Miller, LMFT, for the annual audit conducted by Alex Sigal-Liberman, Children's Services Administrator on October 5, 2005. The exit interview was held on October, 6, 2005.

**Audit Recommendation:** David and Margaret Home Management to include comprehensive measurable and attainable goals in the Needs and Services Plan.

The Director of Mental Health and the Director of Residential services met on October 12, 2005 to discuss the audit recommendation and develop a plan of corrective action. From this meeting the corrective action plan as outlined below was developed.

**Corrective Action:** Under the review of the Director of Mental Health and Director of Residential Services, all clinical staff completing the Needs and Services Plan for residents of David and Margaret will include long and short term goals that are attainable and able to be measured to assess the resident's progress in treatment. The aforementioned Directors will meet with the clinical staff of David and Margaret responsible for completion of the Needs and Services Plan on November 2, 2005. This meeting and implementation of the Corrective Action will be completed within 60 days of the date of this letter. During that time the Needs and Services Plan will be reviewed upon completion to ensure its compliance with policy.

Thank you for providing our facility an opportunity to enhance the programming that we provide. Should you have any further questions regarding the Corrective Action Plan, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Cole, Psy.D.  
Director of Residential Services